

# IOWA FLOOD 2008



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Iowa Department of Agriculture  
and Land Stewardship

November 19, 2008

# Impacts By The Numbers

- Estimated \$4 billion agriculture sector loss
- \$1 billion damage in Cedar Rapids alone
- \$225 million at University of Iowa
- 125 miles of primary roads damaged
- Over 1,000 sq blocks of business and residential properties flooded
- 74,000 displaced workers
- Presidential declaration for 80 counties

# SECONDARY ROAD WASHOUTS



# Event Chronology

## ➤ Saturday – June 7

- Massive flooding along Winnebago River
- Predict 2 feet over previous record
- Levee break at Mason City
- Major flooding in Ft. Dodge area
- Tornado destroys 3,500 head sow and gestation operation at Leland
  - Survivors sent to slaughter
  - No facilities available to relocate herd

# Event Chronology

## ➤ Sunday, June 8 –

- Huge bubble of water from Ft. Dodge basin moving to Stratford above Des Moines
- Saylorville Reservoir at 878 feet
  - Predicted to reach 890 feet Wednesday, June 11
  - 889 feet will overtop spillway
- Red Rock at 775 feet – outflow 30,000 cfs
- Coralville Reservoir at 710.6 feet – 16,000 cfs
  - I-380 will close at 715 feet
- Prediction – Quick flood crests, quick recede

# Companion Animal Impacts

- CR residents flee neighborhoods at 3 am
  - Crest reaches far beyond anticipated impact
  - Calls for animal water rescue
    - Authorize Missouri Humane Society St. Louis
    - United Animal Nation – Denver
    - Humane Society United States
  - Cedar Rapids / Iowa City animal shelters flood
    - Emergency pet shelters opened at Kirkwood College and Johnson County Fairgrounds

Below – Humane Society of Missouri water rescue team pulls into Cedar Rapids



Above – Setting up shelter at Kirkwood Community College Cedar Rapids





Left – Sgt. Kent Choate (Animal Control) works with UAN water rescue in Cedar Rapids neighborhood

Below – Rescuers launch for animal recovery missions



# Event Chronology

- Saturday, June 14 – no rain
  - Projecting 36' at Columbus Junction Tuesday
    - Previous 1993 record 27'
    - Iowa / Cedar Rivers meet there
  - Evaluate downstream impacts
    - Mississippi River below Muscatine – new records
  - Oakville levee fails
    - Crest expected Tuesday, June 17

**Iowa River floods Oakville...  
creates 20,000 acre lake.**



# Animal Impacts

- 15 horses stranded in stable near Waterloo without feed
  - Horses up to chest in flood water
  - Equine Rescue deployed to assist
- Cattle stranded a mile from road
  - Feed support needed
  - Combination of boats / multi-terrain vehicles used to supply hay for five days
- Hogs abandoned as Oakville floods

# Event Chronology

- Tuesday, June 17 –
  - Assessment, recovery beginning upstream
  - Reports of hogs on levees, carcasses floating downstream to Burlington
    - Producers saved >37,000 head over 5 days
    - ~4,000 head left in structures or gates opened Saturday when levee broke
  - Columbus Junction loses 25% of businesses
    - City evacuated, lost water / waste treatment plant

# Event Chronology

- Wednesday, June 18 –
  - Hogs found rooting on levees, weakening them
  - Sheriff orders animals shot to protect levees
    - National media issues
    - Contact Farm Sanctuary to remove live hogs
      - Improves public image
      - Keeps hogs from escaping area, going feral
  - Open surge shelter at Lee County Fairgrounds to support Burlington, Ft. Madison, Keokuk
  - Request USDA 3D assistance for carcasses



# Event Chronology

## ➤ Thursday, June 19

- CNN video focuses attention on hog issues
  - Live hog rescue attempted using platform boats
  - Hogs uncooperative on rooftops, in water
  - Attempts to get feed to surviving hogs
- USDA Wildlife Services team on standby
  - Instructed to euthanize animals on levees



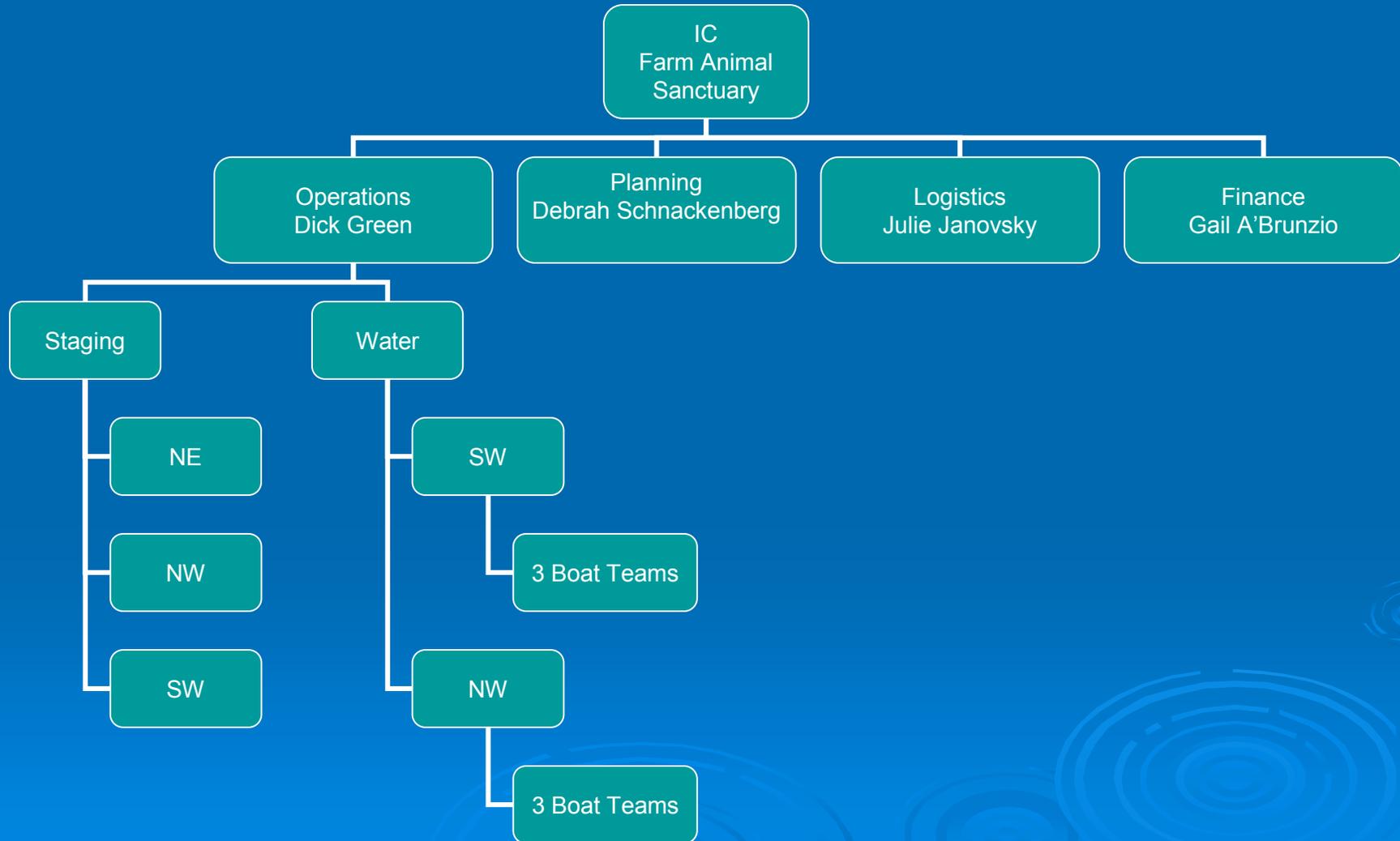




# Attachment A

## Animal Coalition Leaders

- American Humane – Debrah Schnackenberg
- Julie Janovsky – Farm Animal Sanctuary
- Dick Green - IFAW



And Finally, the Elusive  
Photo of the Crest in the  
River





# AGRICULTURE RESPONSE



# Missions

- Assist local emergency animal shelters
  - Animal health care, shelter staffing support
    - Enrolled volunteers in IVRRT (experience required)
    - Identified by discipline (UTL criteria)
    - IVRRT covered liability, workers comp
- Assist with production animal issues
  - Requested NVS to deploy 3D contractor
  - Requested USDA Wildlife Services team
  - Authorized NGOs to capture, remove live hogs

# Companion Animals

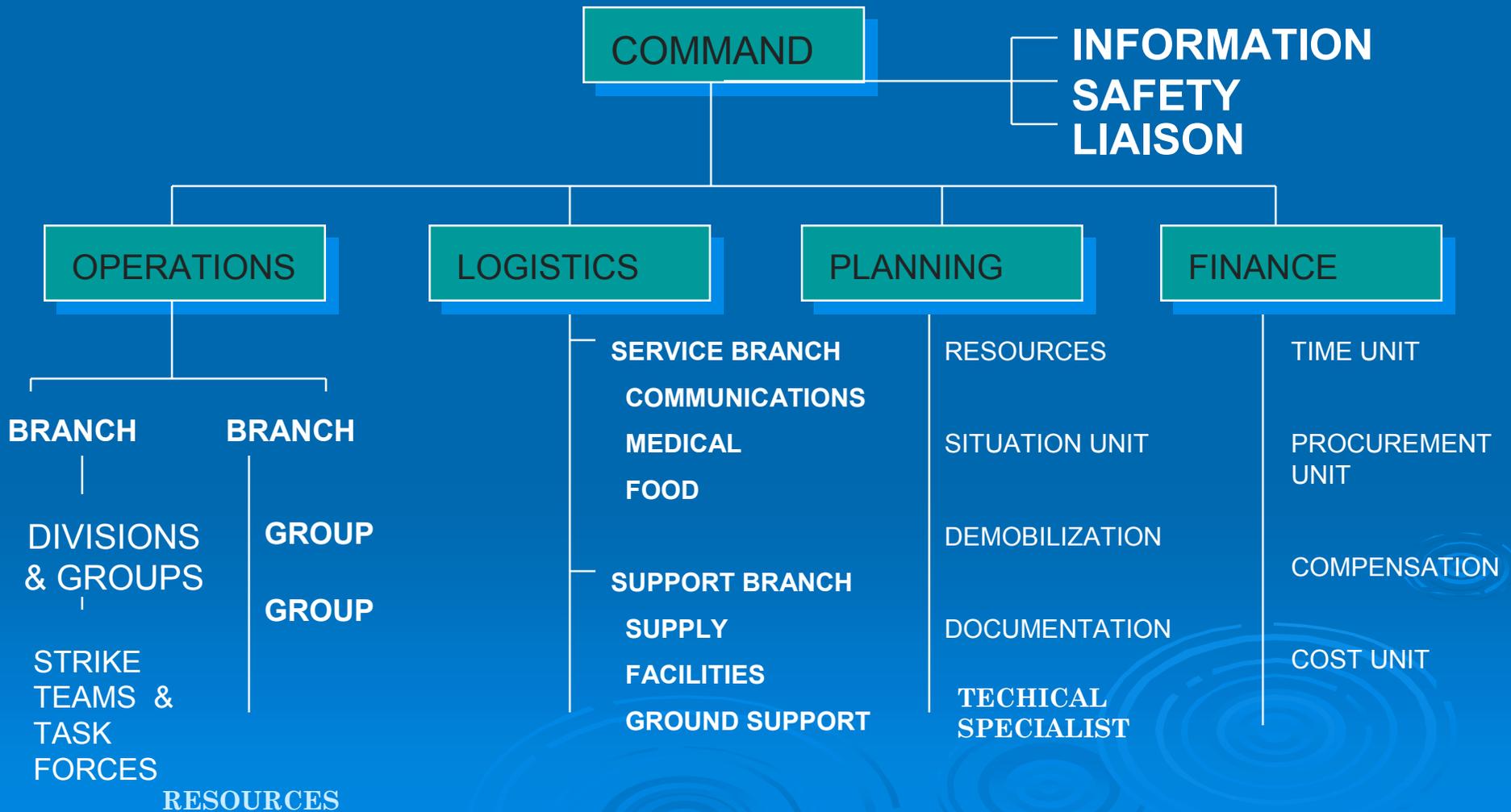
- IDALS / USDA engaged to support ESF-6
  - Agencies had expertise / resources
  - Specialty team provided “umbrella” for locals
    - Two shelters flooded – temporary facilities
    - Hosts required volunteers be covered
  - IDALS provided staff support
    - Intake, volunteer coordination, inventory
  - USDA provided site management support
    - Health tech coordination, overnight staffing

# IOWA SEOC

## State Emergency Operations Center



# ICS Organization







# Kirkwood Shelter – Cedar Rapids

- Opened June 12 after city shelter flooded
- Estimated animals served – 1,300
- Maximum daily census >1,000
- Over 1,000 volunteers
  - Over 50,000 volunteer hours
- 85% of animals returned to owners
- 7% relinquished and relocated
- 8% humanely euthanized

# Tippi Beef Barn





# Johnson County Shelter

- Opened June 13 after city shelter flooded
- Estimated animals served – 215
- Maximum daily census – 150
- Over 400 volunteers
- 100% of all owner identified pets reclaimed

# Oakville Pet Rescue

- NGOs rescued over 70 cats, dogs
  - Waited 6 days for favorable conditions
    - Water running at 10-12 knots
  - Animals taken to area shelters
    - Respiratory stress, flood water ingestion, off feed
  - Used search lights at night to ID cat eyes
  - Established feeding stations as water receded







# NVS Deploys 3D Team

- Clean Harbors mission to remove hog carcasses from levees and confinements
- Fabricated baskets to scoop hogs from embankments and water
- Challenges
  - Underwater hazards
  - Chemicals, fuel, decomposing residue
- Contractor demobilized Tuesday, July 22

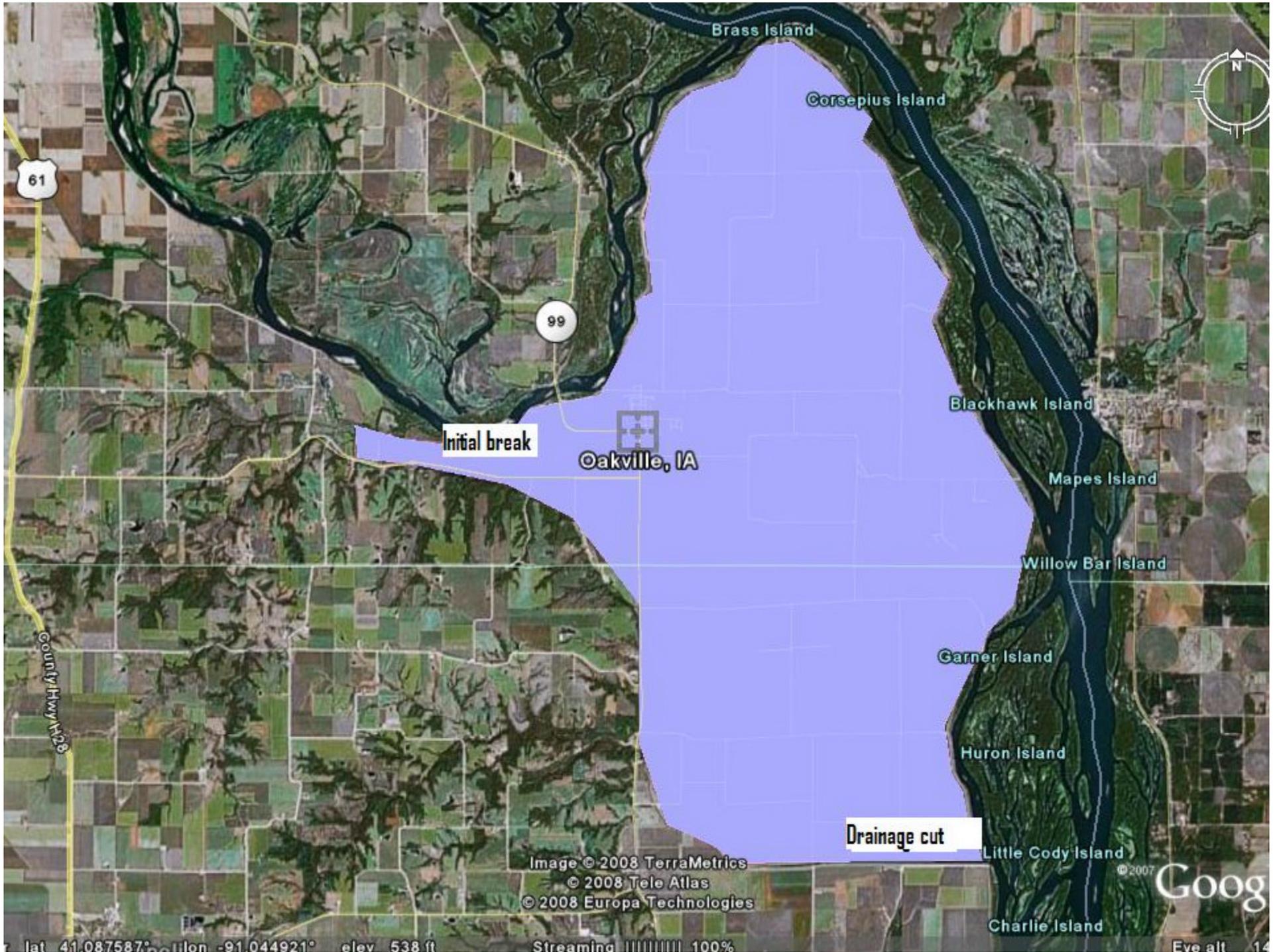
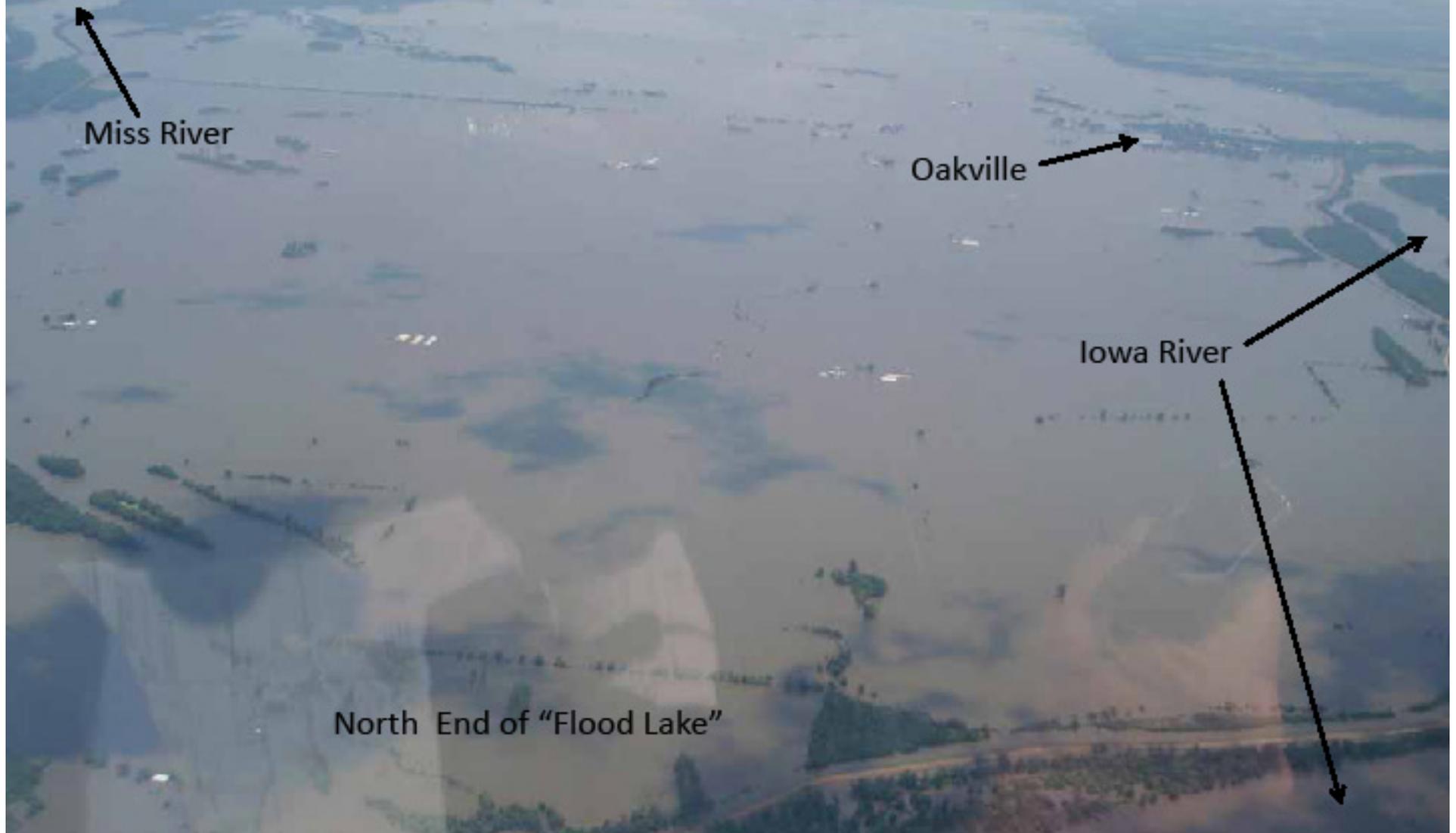


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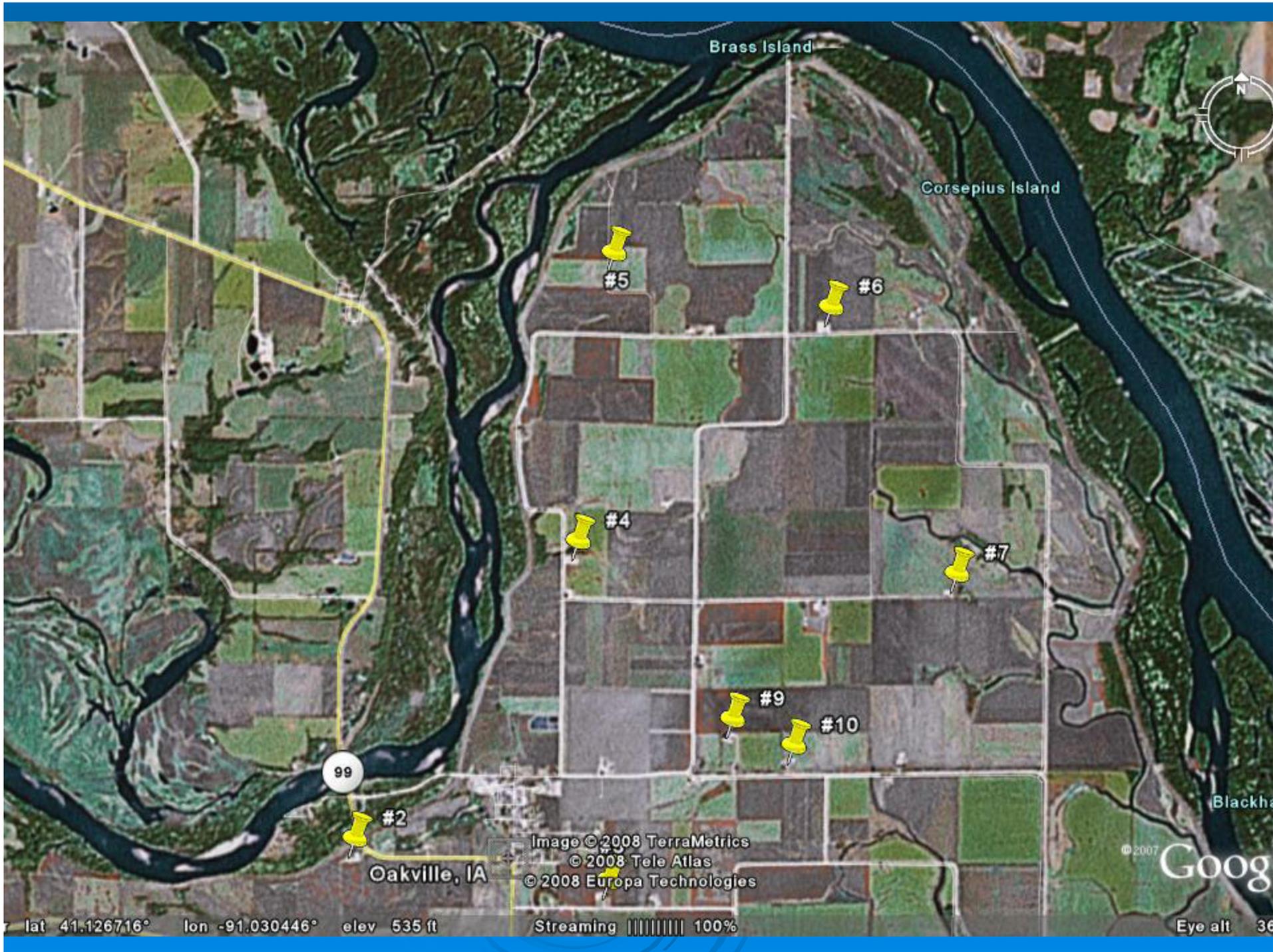
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Pictures taken June 18, 2008. The Iowa River converges with the Mississippi near Oakville. Normally, this is farmland, not a lake. This "lake" is about 4 miles wide and maybe 10 miles long. Numerous farmsteads under water with just rooftops exposed.









Brass Island

Corsepius Island

#5

#6

#4

#7

#9

#10

#2

Oakville, IA

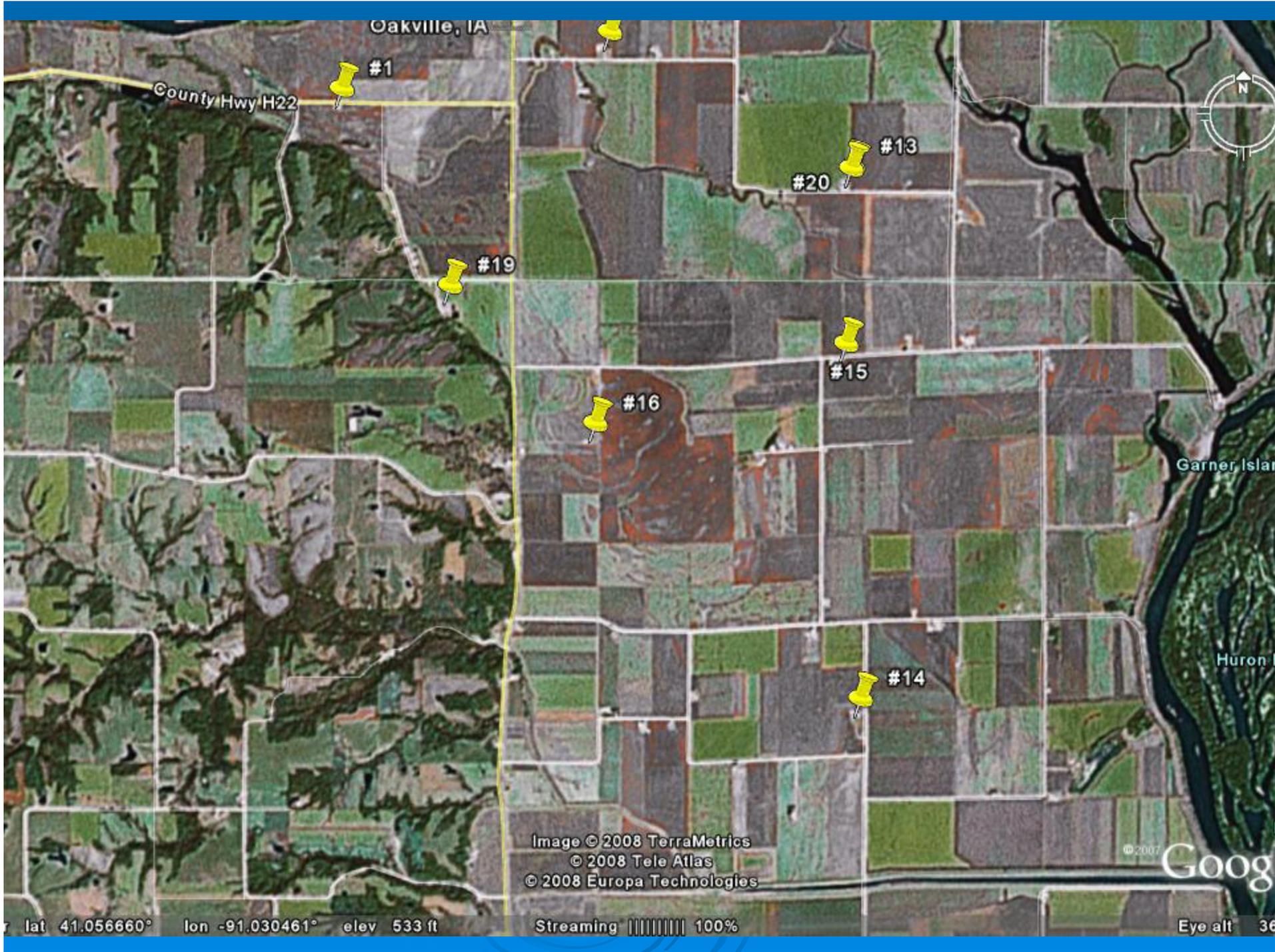
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lat 41.126716° lon -91.030446° elev 535 ft

Streaming 100%

Eye alt 36



Oakville, IA

County Hwy H22

#1

#13

#20

#19

#15

#16

#14

Garner Island

Huron

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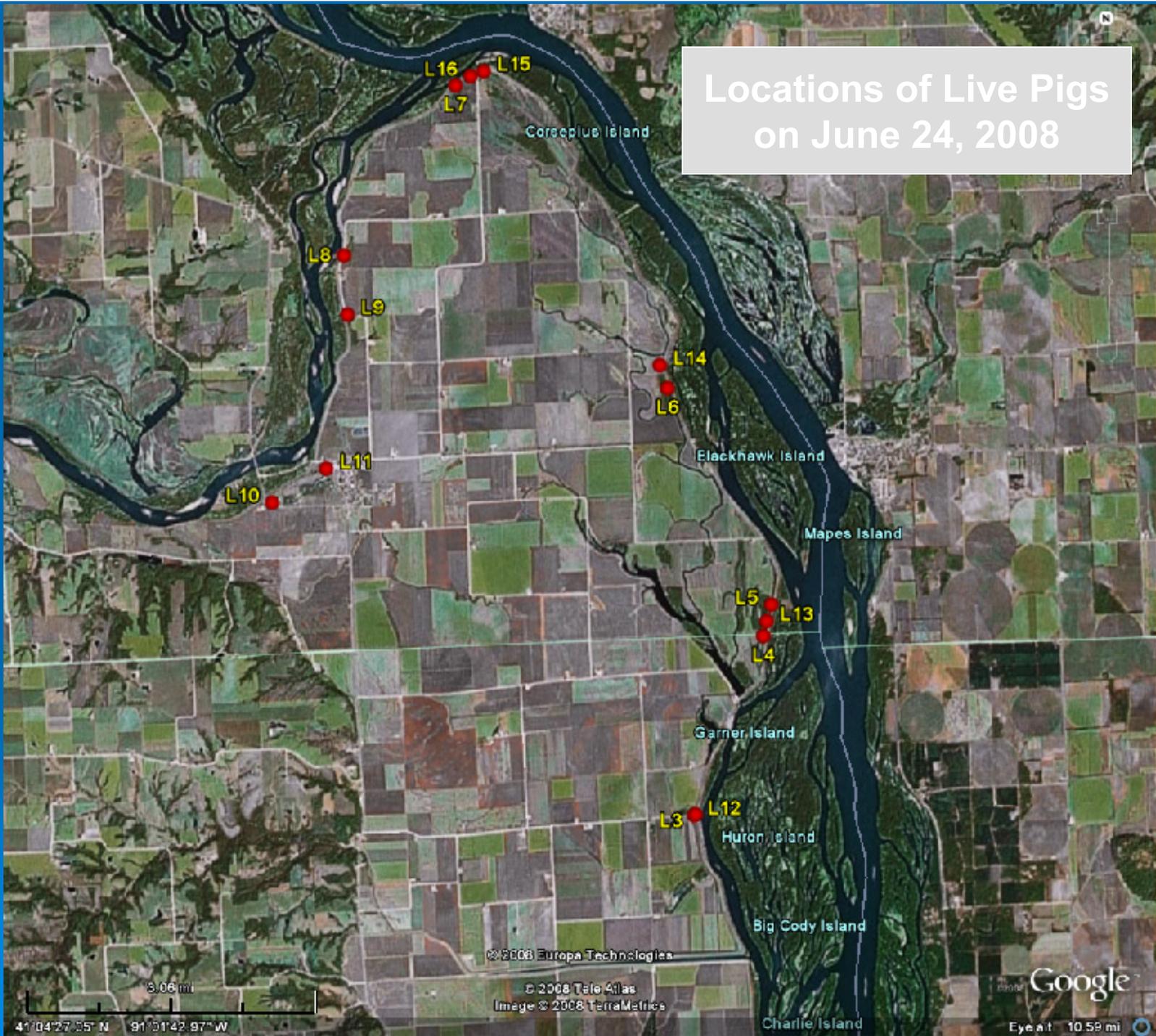
Goog

lat 41.056660° lon -91.030461° elev 533 ft

Streaming ||||| 100%

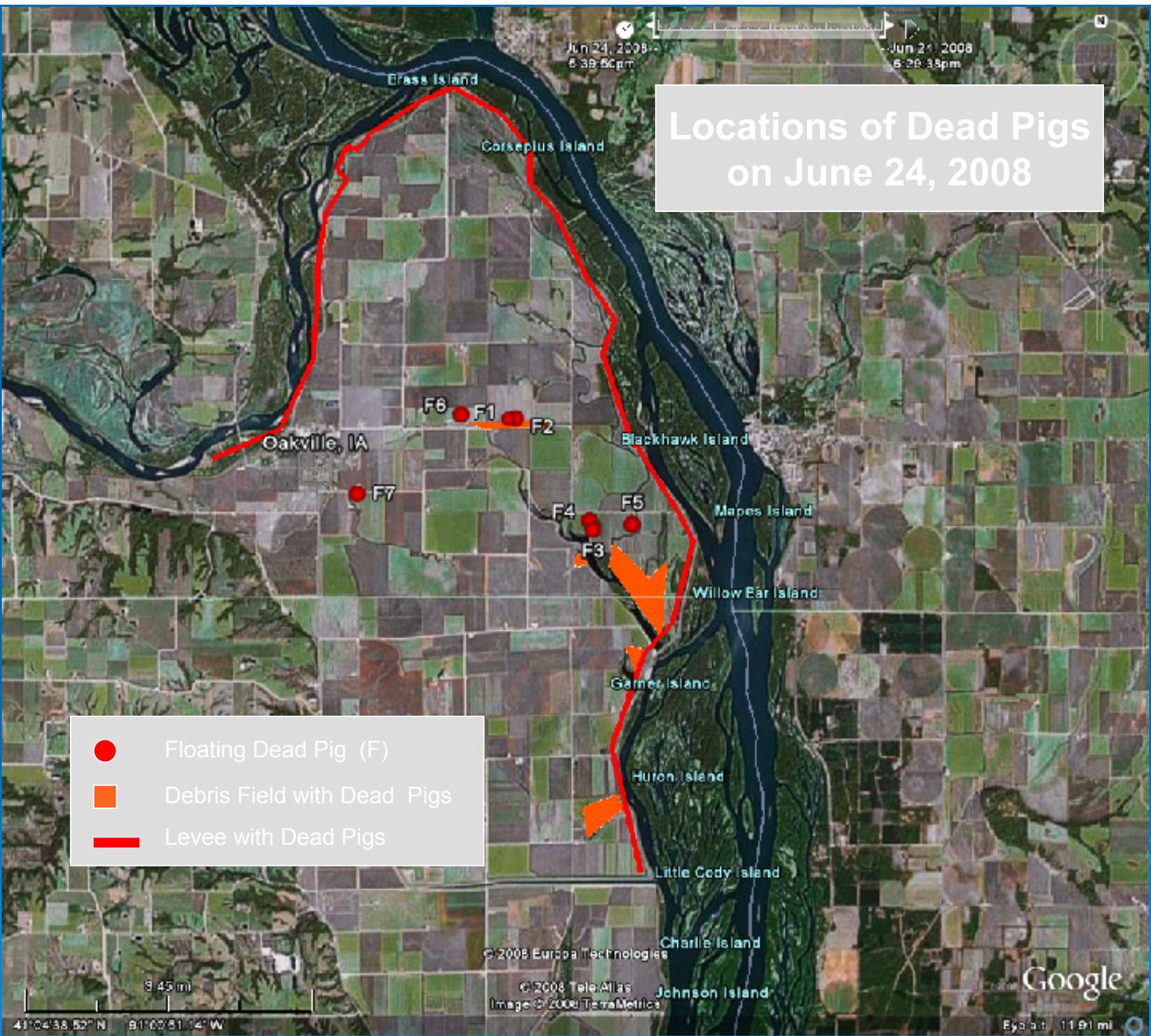
Eye alt 36

# Locations of Live Pigs on June 24, 2008



# Locations of Dead Pigs on June 24, 2008

- Floating Dead Pig (F)
- Debris Field with Dead Pigs
- Levee with Dead Pigs



41°04'38.52" N 91°02'51.14" W

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Google  
Eye alt: 11.91 mi



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# FINAL SWINE NUMBERS FROM OAKVILLE IA AREA JUNE, JULY 2008

OPERATOR	CARCASSES FROM INSIDE	CARCASSES FROM OUTSIDE	SWINE EUTHANIZED	SWINE RECOVERED LIVE
CLEAN HARBORS		371		
CLEAN HARBORS	1160			
RESCUE COALITION				69
RESCUE CO.			4	
DSM SHERIFF			19	
WILDLIFE SERVICES			7	

GRAND TOTAL NUMBER SWINE ACCOUNTED FOR = 1630  
(plus approximately 1500 feeder pigs in a nursery) = **~3230**

# Lessons Learned



# Rumor Control

- Companion animals:
  - Shipping owned pets out-of-state
  - Euthanizing animals to make room for more
  - Petco shipped all their recalled food to Iowa
- Production livestock:
  - Open season to shoot hogs
  - All NGOs are just like PETA



# Lessons Learned

- Don't wait to mobilize state / NGO assets
  - Water rescue
  - Shelter management / support
- NGOs have significant roles / resources
- Place pet trailers around the state
- Redundant team notification systems
  - Make sure IT systems work "off campus"
- Disposal of dead animals – Public Health Threat
- Premises registration

# What information goes into the Premises Identification System?

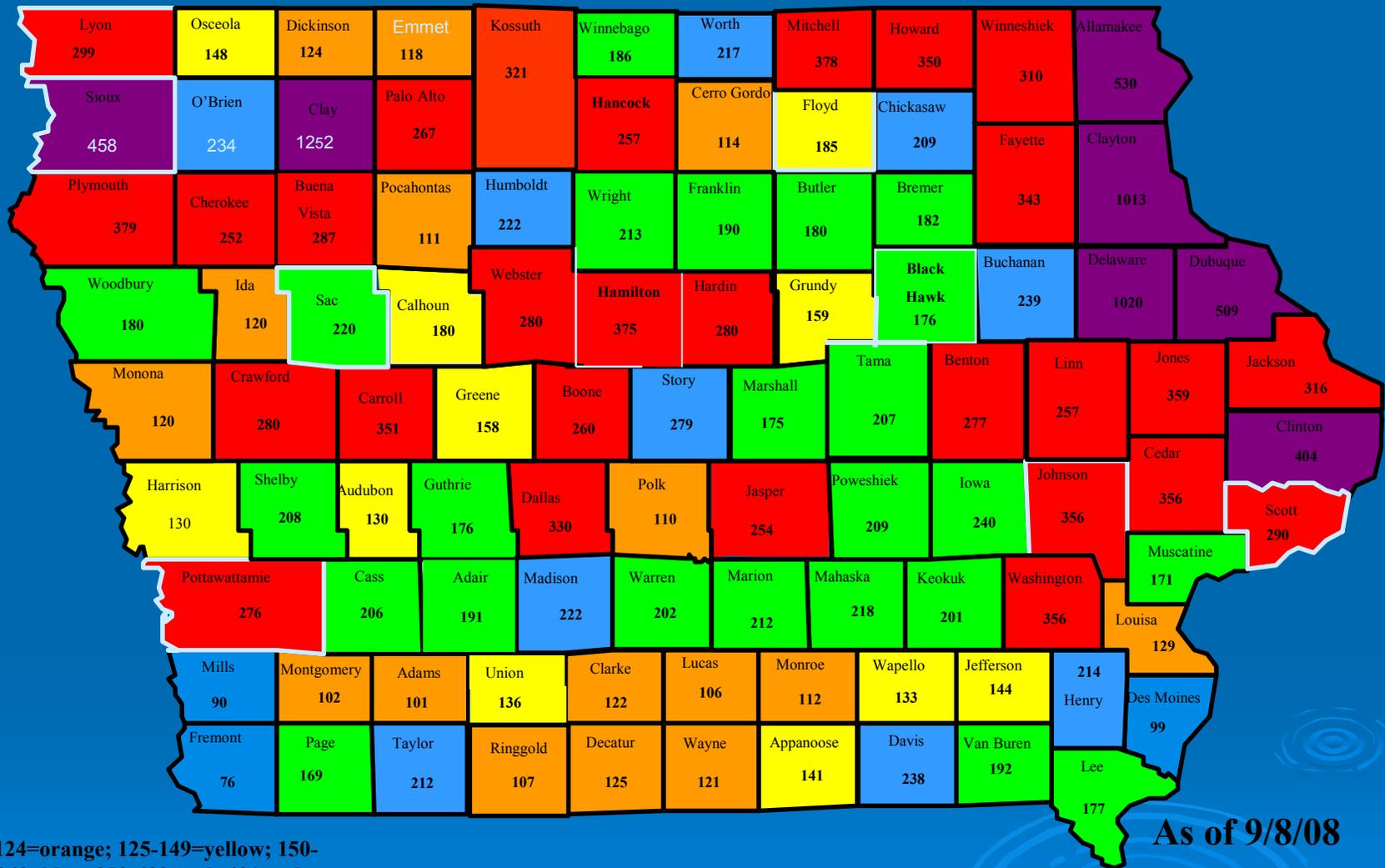
- The Premises Identification System will record information such as:
  - 911 street address
  - Contact name
  - Phone number
  - Species
- The Premises Identification System is voluntary, and done at no cost to the producer

# Premises Identification Process

- After a PIN is assigned, IDALS will send the registrant an identification card
  - Card will have both a bar code and magnetic stripe containing PIN information



# Total Number of Premises Registered by County

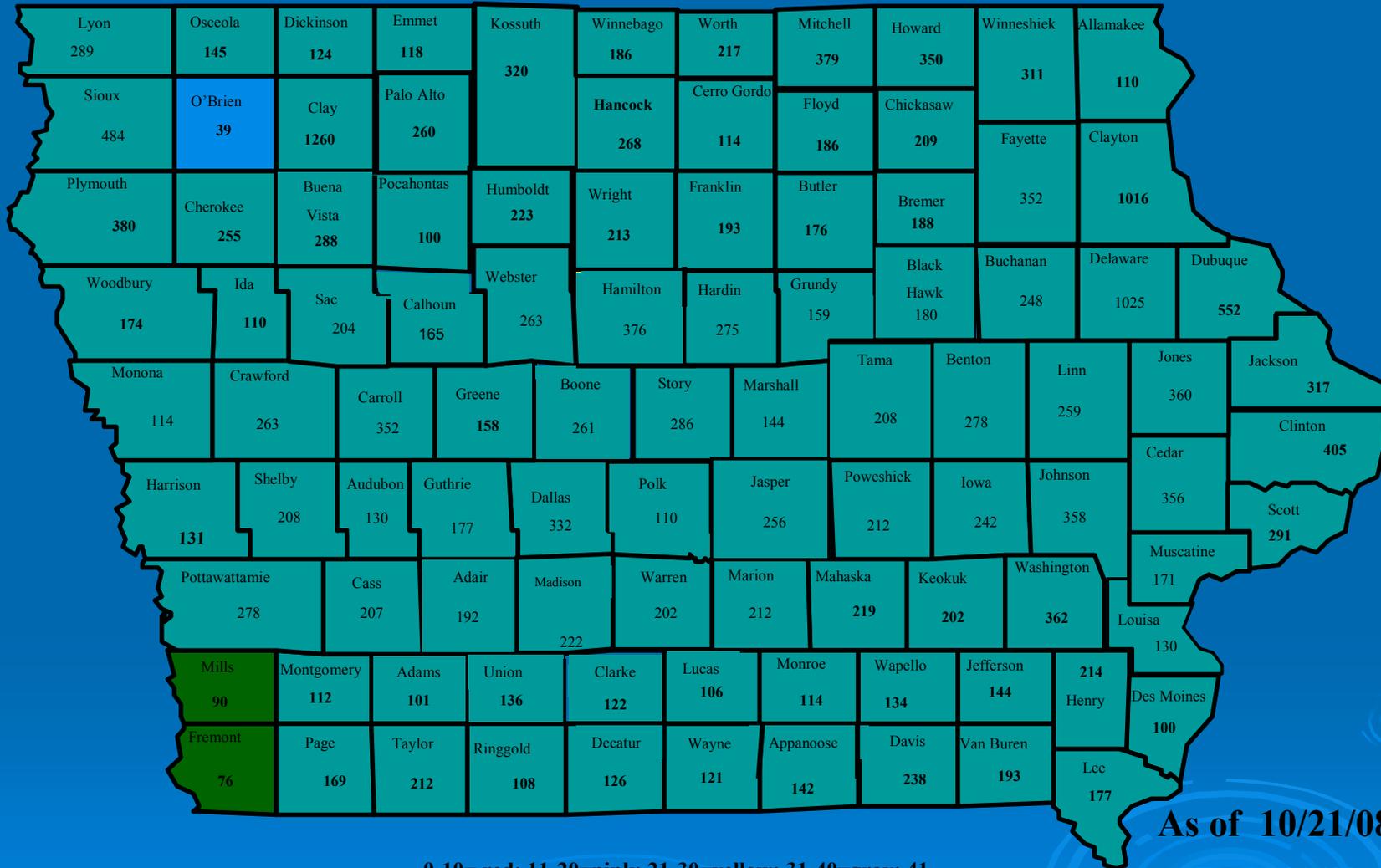


0-99=gray; 100-124=orange; 125-149=yellow; 150-199=green; 200-249=blue; 250-400=red; 401 and over =purple

As of 9/8/08

Total =23,767

# Number of Premises Registered by County



As of 10/21/08

Total = 24,428

0-10= red; 11-20=pink; 21-30=yellow; 31-40=gray; 41-60=light green; 61-100=dark green; Over 100=blue

# Thank You

- Mark Shearer
- IDALS staff
- IVRRT
- USDA
- Emergency Animal Shelters
- NGO's
- County EMCs
- Private contributors - supplies

# Thank You

- Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
- The City of Cedar Rapids
- Kirkwood Community College
- Humane Society of Missouri
- Humane Society of the United States
- Code 3 Rescue
- United Animal Nations
- PetSmart Charities
- Farm Animal Sanctuary
- International Fund for Animal Welfare
- Best Friends Animal Sanctuary
- Kinship Circle
- International Fund for Animal Welfare
- Animal Rescue League of Boston
- Animal Rescue League of Iowa
- Noah's Wish
- American Humane
- Animal Rescue League of Boston
- PetCo
- And many, many more

# Thank You

- Private contributors – supplies, vaccines, microchips, pharmaceuticals
  - Merial
  - Fort Dodge Laboratories
  - Bayer
  - Schering Plough
  - Pfizer
  - Wal-Mart
  - Petsmart
  - Avid
  - Many others
- 